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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2005

THIS REPORT PRESENTS THE TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE
THEMES:

HEADLINES
BRIEFING
EDITORIAL OPINION

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HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

Elections a Democracy Test for Azerbaijanis - Sabah
Unrest in Baku - Milliyet
Azerbaijani Opposition Claims Fraud - Sabah
Aliyev Pledges Reforms - Aksam
Paris in Fkames - Turkiye
Paris Unrest Costs 7 Million Euro - Posta
Tehran to Make Up with Baghdad - Aksam
Iran, Italy Duel over Israel - Vatan
Annan Puts Off Iran Visit - Vatan 11/6
Bush Staff to Take Ethics Training - Sabah
Carter: Bush Deceived Americans - Vatan 11/6
Bush Returns from Americas Summit Empty-Handed - Sabah
Chavez, Maradona Steal Show at Americas Summit - Posta 11/6

OPINION MAKERS

Iran Opens Military Facility to UN Inspectors - Yeni Safak
Muslim Youth Besiege Downtown Paris - Yeni Safak
Migrants Furious in France, Europe on Tenterhooks - Radikal
Tensions in France Spreads - Cumhuriyet 11/6
French Muslim Community Demands an Apology - Yeni Safak
US Warns Americans against Traveling to Paris - Zaman 11/6
Shiite Family Killed in Iraq - Radikal
Coalition Forces Launch New Operation on Syrian Border -
Cumhuriyet 11/6
Support for Bush Sinks to 35 Percent - Cumhuriyet 11/5
Wilkerson: Cheney Ordered for Torture of Prisoners - Radikal
11/5
Taliban Urges Afghans to Join Fight against Americans -
Cumhuriyet

BRIEFING

Azerbaijani Elections: "Cumhuriyet" on Sunday reported that opposition parties in Azerbaijan had their offices raided and representatives arrested following an election campaign that took place in an atmosphere of tension. 'The elections in Azerbaijan, where corruption is rife and some 40 percent of the population lives in poverty, are being closely monitored by international oil companies, the United States, and Russia,' the report says. The article quotes State Department Spokesman Sean McCormack on the importance of a fair election which, he stressed, would strengthen ties between Baku and Washington. The Azerbaijani election commission told the press on Sunday that the ruling party had won more seats than any other party, but added that many

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seats had also been won by independent candidates. Monday's reporting suggested that the new parliament would be dominated by supporters of President Aliyev, and highlighted opposition claims of voting fraud. The reports claimed that the opposition may call for people to take to the streets on Tuesday.

Turkish 'Secret Constitution' on Iraq, Iran, Syria, Cyprus: "Hurriyet" reported on Saturday that Turkey's National Security Policy Document, the so-called Turkish 'secret constitution' discussed at the latest National Security Council (NSC) meeting, includes the following statements

about Iraq and Iran: 'The protection of Iraq's territorial and political integrity is important for all countries in the region. Long-term steps toward the establishment of an independent Kurdish state will cause serious problems. Tehran's continuation of its nuclear program beyond humanitarian purposes will pose a threat to Turkey. Iran's work on the Shahab 4 and Shahab 5 missiles following the production of Shahab 3 with a range of 1000-1300 km is noteworthy.' The Document also says that developments in Syria are being 'monitored.' On Cyprus, the document underlines the importance of finding a 'lasting and feasible solution' that will be 'acceptable for both sides' on the divided island. The document also states that Cyprus is of 'first degree' importance to Turkey's security, adding that Ankara will not renounce its rights over the disputed island.

Edelman Allegedly Involved in the Libby 'Scandal': "Yeni Safak" on Saturday carried a story by Turkey's Ihlas News Agency (IHA) from Washington, alleging that former US Ambassador to Turkey, Eric Edelman, may have met with Lewis Libby in 2003, when Edelman was an advisor to VP Cheney, about the leaked identity of a CIA operative. Edelman told a Congressional hearing earlier this year that he had no involvement in the issue, but the report suggests that Edelman's testimony may have been based on advice from 'other authorities.' The report notes that there have been no accusations made against Edelman.

PKK Opens Office in Baghdad: The PKK has opened an office in Baghdad despite opposition by Iraqi President Jalal Talabani and Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) leader Massoud Barzani, weekend papers report. The office, which is protected by 15 PKK militants, was opened under the guise of the Iraqi Democratic Solution Party. A grainy photograph carried by many papers shows an Iraqi flag at the office

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flying side by side with what is alleged to be a PKK flag.

Greek PM Karamanlis Puts Off Turkey Visit: Greek Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis has put off his visit to Turkey that had been planned for November, weekend papers report. Citing Greek press reports, the media claims that Karamanlis will not visit Turkey in November, but will reschedule his visit for 'an appropriate time.' Greek papers speculated that the visit was postponed due to Turkey's policy against the recognition of Cyprus and statements by Turkish officials on that issue. The Greek press also speculated that Ankara's stance against Greek Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I had been influential in the decision to postpone the visit. Turkish diplomatic sources told "Kathimerini" that they still expect the visit to take place before the end of the year, claiming that they have received assurances to that effect from the Greek government. The sources implied that Turkey would be extremely displeased by an indefinite postponement. Karamanlis would be the first Greek Prime Minister to visit Turkey in the last 46 years.

Bryza Reiterates US Support for Lifting of Sanctions on North Cyprus: In an evaluation of Turkish Cypriot president Mehmet Ali Talat's visit to the US at a conference at Washington's Georgetown University, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Matt Bryza said the way forward is the reunification of Cyprus through the removal of sanctions against Turkish Cypriots, Turkish wire services report on Monday.

Bryza said that Talat's visit to the US in late October had been 'a very big step forward.' Bryza described Talat's meeting with Secretary Rice as 'constructive, strategic, and visionary.' 'Let's move beyond the slogans. We should do

our best to integrate the Turkish Cypriots into Europe and the world,' Bryza said.

Talat Displeases Ankara: Weekend papers report that Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat displeased Ankara by scrapping the tradition of celebrating the Ramadan holiday with a joint reception with political and military representatives from Turkey. Turkish Cypriot Peace Forces Commander Hasan Memisoglu declined to take part in Talat's program, and held a separate celebration attended by former Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktas. Asked about his decision to hold the reception alone, Talat said that "it would be wrong to create the impression that this country is not actually ruled by elected officials but by others. This would be detrimental to our cause. We must show the rest of

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the world that there is democracy in Turkish Cyprus.'

Constitution Gives the PKK Asylum Rights in Iraq: Ahmet Muratli, Ankara representative of the Iraqi Turkmen Front, wrote a letter to President Sezer claiming that Article 22 of the recently accepted Iraqi Constitution gives the PKK the right to seek political asylum in Iraq, Sunday's "Hurriyet" reported. Article 22 forbids asylum-seekers from being forcibly deported which, according to Muratli, prevents PKK terrorists from being extradited to Turkey if they are captured in Iraq. Muratli also voiced doubt that the Iraqi Turkmen will preserve their identity if an independent Kurdish state is formed.

Barzani Flies to US via Turkey: Friday's "Vatan" reported that Iraqi Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) leader Massoud Barzani flew to Washington via Turkey after US officials decided that Turkey would be the safest route for the Kurdish leader. The report claims that a small plane carrying Barzani landed at Incirlik Air Base on October 23, and that he was treated as a guest for a short time by Turkish soldiers at the base before departing for Washington on a larger US military plane. The report notes that in 2002, Barzani refused to attend a gathering of Iraqi dissidents held in the United States because he would have had to fly via Turkey.

MP Asks If Turkey Handed Over Terror Suspects to the US: Ahmet Guryuz Ketenci, a lawmaker from Istanbul, asked Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan in a statement whether some individuals were handed over to the CIA without interrogation, dailies reported over the weekend. Ketenci said that a report broadcast by Swedish State Radio claimed that Turkish security captured terror suspects sought by the United States in operations inside and outside of Turkey, and turned them over to the CIA without an interrogation. 'It is known that a CIA plane that took off from Istanbul Airport on March 7, 2005 and flew to the US after stopping at Copenhagen and Reykjavik. The plane stayed on the ground for 23 hours at Copenhagen Airport. In addition, "The Washington Post" alleged that the US has set up secret prisons in some east European countries. Turkey may face very serious charges in international platforms in the coming days,' Ketenci said. Ketenci added that he will submit a motion in parliament requesting an explanation from PM Erdogan. Ketenci asks if the CIA plane that landed in Istanbul on March 7 picked up any 'passengers' from Turkey, and if Turkish security agencies acting as 'subcontractors' of the US captured individuals and handed them over to the CIA.

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Cicek Criticizes Denmark for Not Banning Kurdish TV:
Justice Minister Cemil Cicek strongly criticized Denmark for not canceling the license of Copenhagen-based Roj TV, the

Kurdish broadcaster that Turkey claims is a mouthpiece of the outlawed PKK organization. 'Denmark has been stalling on our request to close a TV station that supports ethnic terrorism. This contravenes EU legislation,' Cicek charged during a visit to Stockholm. Ankara says that Roj TV has been inciting hatred and fear by expressing support for the PKK in broadcasts that began in March 2004. A Danish radio and TV watchdog ruled earlier this year that Roj TV programs did not violate Danish law, but added that it had asked police to look into alleged ties between the broadcaster and the PKK. Turkey has previously succeeded in ensuring the closure of two other Europe-based Kurdish TV stations believed to have links to the PKK. MED-TV had its license revoked in the UK, while France refused to grant a license to its successor, MEDYA-TV.

Erdogan on Ethnic Unrest in France: Monday papers report that Prime Minister Erdogan said that unrest in France had been triggered by the headscarf ban enforced in French schools. 'A year and a half ago I warned the French that they were fueling divisions between Christians and Muslims. I stressed that Turkey's EU entry is the only way to prevent a possible clash of civilizations. Unfortunately, our warning was ignored,' Erdogan said. Erdogan emphasized that the unrest in France has demonstrated the importance of the need to build an 'alliance of civilizations.'

Report on Displaced People in Turkey: A report by the Turkish Foundation for Economic and Social Research (TESEV) said that the number of displaced people in Turkey had reached one million, and that many migrant families force their children to work for survival, Monday's "Radikal" reports. The academics that prepared the report said the population of the mainly Kurdish southeastern cities of Hakkari and Diyarbakir had increased more than two-fold as a result of migration, underlining the fact that the cities had failed to cope with the rapid increase. They noted that projects seeking to encourage a return to villages are not advancing smoothly, and that state support is not sufficient to revive life in evacuated villages.

Economic Situation Deteriorating in Southeast Turkey: In 2005, 246,000 people requested assistance from the Governor's Office in Diyarbakir, the mainly Kurdish

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southeastern province which has been turned into a 'city of refugees,' "Radikal" reported on Saturday. Ongoing fighting, unemployment, and economic problems in the southeast over the last 15 years have forced the people to live on public assistance. A substantial proportion of the population of Mardin, Hakkari, Batman, Bitlis, Sanliurfa, Adiyaman, Sirnak, and Siirt lives on assistance received from governor's offices and municipalities. Official figures indicate the unemployment rate in Diyarbakir is 14 percent, though other indicators show that the real figure is probably closer to 50 percent.

Minority Assets in Turkey: The EU Commission Accession Partnership Document on Turkey to be released on November 9 contains recommendations that would open the way for minorities to claim their properties in Turkey or to ask for compensation, Monday papers report. Papers claim that the inclusion of this subject in the accession partnership document will constitute a legal ground for Greeks to demand compensation from Turkey for confiscated property.

EDITORIAL OPINION: France

"The Paris Lesson"

Gungor Mengi wrote in the mass appeal "Vatan" (11/7): "There is concern that the flames in Paris might create a chain reaction and spread throughout all of Europe. In fact the reasons behind the rage felt by minority groups in France are equally valid in other European nations such as Germany, Belgium, and Holland. . The West, which has caused anger and violence in occupied Iraq, is now seeing a similar situation erupt in Paris. As Eric Marliere, a French sociologist, noted, a reaction becomes inevitable when no jobs and services available and discrimination exists. The European Commission's report on racism has already concluded that there is discrimination against immigrants. In other words, the current uprising is not a surprise. . French Interior Minister Sarkozy is not responsible for these events, but he will be the one who gets the blame if he refuses to step down. A gesture from the French government would be sufficient to get the immigrant to stop the violence. If the French system insists on protecting Sarkozy, it will only hel the radical Islamist organizations that are dreaming to abuse the feelings of the Muslim minority."

"Paris and 1968"

Rahim Er commented in the conservative "Turkiye" (11/7):

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"Paris is not only an international fashion center. Paris can also be a center for events that spread around the world, like the events of 1968. Although Paris is one of the major centers of western civilization, this civilization is currently producing anger and poverty that speaks to the serious economic divide in France. . Paris has its Africans, New York has its blacks, and London has its Pakistanis. This list could be expanded, but it is enough to illustrate the gap that exists between glamor and poverty. The West is preparing itself for a conflict of civilizations."

"Paris Ablaze"

Zafer Atay wrote in the economic-political "Dunya" (11/7): "The residents of the areas where the unrest began are mainly Muslim immigrants from northern Africa and the former colonies of France. The unemployment rate in these areas is 30 percent -- three times higher than the national rate. People live in poorly constructed housing blocks, many without running water or heating. They suffer continuous electricity cuts. Their garbage is not collected. The schools their children attend are far below French standards. The youth in this area have two choices - to sell drugs or join criminal gangs. . While they attack Turkey at every opportunity for violations of human and minority rights, French parliamentarians haven't even stopped by Clichy-Sous-Bois, where the violence started. We don't believe that Madame Mitterand, who criticized Turkey so harshly in the past, even knows the way to the suburbs of Paris. Already, some are characterizing these incidents as a civil war and expecting the French military to intervene."

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